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VISION STATEMENT

Trinity Lutheran Church is a community inspired by God
to share Christ's good news by what we say and do.

MARCH 2024

FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

Beloved congregation,

We extend a warm invitation to join us for our Easter Sunday service at Redeemer.

While we appreciate the concerns some may have about not having Easter worship at our home church this year, please know that this decision wasn't made lightly and was made in the spirit of unity and collaboration.

We are building on the widespread good feeling from the great worship and turnout we had when Redeemer and Trinity joined together on Reformation Sunday at Trinity. We are also helping to lift and support a sister congregation who do not have a pastor. Redeemer's new pastor starts in June.

On Maundy Thursday, Redeemer will join with us at Trinity. Our Good Friday service will be on our own.

If you have any concerns or questions, we encourage you to bring them to the attention of our council. We want to assure you that we will address any potential issues, including parking or transportation concerns.

Let us come together to celebrate the wonderful Resurrection of Christ and reflect on the significance of Easter with a spirit of understanding and unity.

Blessings to all, and we look forward to worshipping with you.

In His love
Trinity Council

PASTOR'S NOTES

Our world has changed and it affects our church. It has been changing significantly since (at least) the 1960s and in a fuller reality, our church has been changing since its formation in the first century.

Phyllis Tickle was an American author and lecturer whose work focused on spirituality and religion issues. She brought us the idea that from the church's birth to the reign of St. Gregory the Great, to the Great Schism and through the Reformation (1517), that every 500 years the church has been rocked by massive transitions. She would claim that we are in one of those transitions right now. She says that there are usually one or more key factors that precede the transition and for our time, the contraceptive pill is one of key factors.

Women's groups, in pretty much every (northern/western) church, have closed or are running out of steam. The ELCIC's Evangelical Lutheran Women (ELW) group closed in 2010. Bishop Susan Johnson wrote about that ministry,

“Perhaps ELW’s greatest gift has been in the opportunity it provided for Lutheran women, from across Canada, to be joined together in common cause. Whether it was gathering for national, synodical, or conference ELW events, participating in ELW Bible Studies, or learning about social justice issues, ELW provided a network of relationships which knit Lutheran women together in a sense of common mission.”

Every church feels that loss. Many, or most, women these days work outside the home and are not available to do what the women’s groups in the past were able to do. Also, gender roles in society have changed significantly since the 1960s. Things ain’t what they used to be.

I am still asking these questions with the Facing the Future Team.

Who are we?

What is important to us?

How are we relevant to the world (near & far)?

In my sermon on 25th February, I talked about faith and trust and that I think they really are the same thing, or maybe they are the two sides of the same coin. I left the congregation with a question, “*What does your trust in God help you to do?*” I think I will ask that of our Facing the Future Team. This was the implied fourth question:

“What does our trust in God help us to do?”

~ Pastor Steve

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

If you have ever sung the beautiful Martin Haugen, “Holden Evening Prayer” service? You can do that this Lent.

- 2 pm Holden Evening Prayer - Redeemer Lutheran Church, led by Pastor Steve

Lent is also a time for reflection. Join me on Zoom to hear what the scripture might be saying to you. This is not a Bible Study ... more a devotional time. Share and hear how others are reacting to scripture. Lead by Pastor Steve

- 7 pm Lectio Divina – via Zoom

Read more and get the zoom link at www.trinitylondon.ca/lent

- **Maundy Thursday 6 pm - Agape Meal**

The English translation is “love-feast”, and it differs from a Seder meal which is the Jewish ritual meal that was the “Last Supper” Passover meal that Jesus shared with the apostles.

The Agape meal is a simple and ordinary meal shared within a Christian Community. It is a time for conversation, prayer and includes that “new thing” that Jesus did at the Passover meal, Holy Communion and his words, “do this in remembrance of me”.

After the meal we will strip Trinity altar ready for Good Friday.

Please note - YOU WILL NEED TO SIGN UP for this meal by adding your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Koehler Fellowship Hall or at www.trinitylondon.ca/agape or. There is no cost.



Caption: Fourth-century fresco of a banquet at a tomb in the Catacomb of Saints Marcellinus and Pete

To understand the causes and origins of Agape feasts, let us first take a look at the lifestyles of the early Christians in the first years after the Ascension of Christ. That was a time of intense eschatological expectations. Conversions were deeply transformative. New members of the Christian Church parted with unbelief and fear and fully dedicated themselves to the divine. Christians were anticipating the second coming of the Lord. Unlike people like you and me, they had a direct sense of belonging to New Jerusalem, a kingdom not of this world. With this sentiment, they rejected the pursuit of any earthly goals and dedicated themselves mainly to the service of God and their neighbour. The suppers of love, or agape meals, centred around the Eucharist, became an expression of this trend.

Ref: *"Agape Feasts — a Tradition of the Past and Its Relevance for the Present"*

December 30, 2021 | by Archpriest

Vladimir Dolgikh

<https://catalog.obitel-minsk.com/blog/2021/12/agape-feasts-a-tradition-of-the-past-and-its-relevance-for-the-present>

~ Pastor Steve

LOVE TO SING?

Songs from multiple faith traditions, songs of justice and peace. Check out the link to hear us sing → www.trinitylondon.ca/inshallah-sings

Come sing & pray with the Inshallah choir on Tuesdays 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm



INSHALLAH-SINGS
SONGS OF JUSTICE AND PEACE
TUESDAYS
5:30 – 6:30 pm
www.trinitylondon.ca/inshallah-sings
Marking the
2nd Anniversary of the
Invasion of Ukraine

COUNCIL NEWS

Council met on February 12, 2024. There are several significant items to be shared with the congregation.

Earlier this month our boiler had a serious component failure but thanks to the Art Blake Refrigeration people the equipment was fixed. This surprise maintenance came with a \$3,500 price tag. There was no time, obviously, to call a congregational meeting giving 2 weeks notice. Council therefore made the decision to proceed with the repair. We can discuss this further at the June meeting. Our church, like all of us, is beginning to show her age.

Our first “*Soup-er Bowl*” Sunday has been deemed a success. We will make this an annual event. Francis Hinnah’s soup was declared the winning recipe.

Last month I mentioned Redeemer Lutheran Church invited Trinity to celebrate Easter with them. We were all so uplifted by the Reformation Sunday Service and luncheon celebrated together. We have accepted their gracious invitation. It is very heart warming to experience this Lutheran solidarity.

We will observe Maundy Thursday and Good Friday in our respective churches. There will be further notice of this.

There are a couple of special Sundays coming up. On March 17 we will celebrate St. Patrick’s Day. Pastor Steve, our resident Irishman, will provide Irish Stew. The 10th anniversary of the arrival of our beautiful grand piano will be on April 14th. We are discussing ways to celebrate this milestone.

Any concerns or suggestions you may have will be accepted by any council member.

Yours in Christ,

Cheryl Millar, Council Chair

MEN’S CLUB

The next Men’s Club Breakfast & Meeting will be held on **Saturday 16 March at 9 am**. The guest speaker will be Alfred Krabbe, Physicist and Astronomer. All are welcome.

SERVING IN MARCH

March 3

Communion

Assistant Janelle Lightbourne
Altar Care Robert Sellars & Jodi Kaufman
Greeter Barb Drogemuller
Reader Lawrence Petch
Coffee Jean Hohnstein

March 10

Greeter Linda Reynolds
Reader Blessy Kolusu
Coffee Joan Leffler

March 17

Communion

Assistant Vivian Parker
Altar Care Robert Sellars & Jodi Kaufman
Greeters Francis Hinnah & Family
Reader Teresa Nicholds
Coffee Luncheon

March 24 - Palm Sunday

Greeters Dave & Pauline Hutchison
Reader Cheryl Millar
Coffee Barb Drogemuller

March 28 - Maundy Thursday – 6 pm

Communion

Assistant Ted Reinhard
Altar Care Robert Sellars & Jodi Kaufman
Reader Lydia Reinhard

March 29 - Good Friday – 10:30 am

TBA

March 31 - Easter Sunday Service at Redeemer 10 am



CAN YOU HELP? Now that our worship services are “*getting back to normal*”, we need more volunteers. We are now looking at having communion twice, and sometimes three times, per month.

CELEBRATING IN MARCH

Happy Birthday!

Marlene Ullerick (2)
Otto Danner (23)
Audrey Behr (29)
Flo Beuermann (30)

Jonathan Wild (2)
David Killinger (28)
Doug Hogg (29)

Nancy Hickling (19)
Orv Ullerick (28)
Fred Schmidt (29)

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY

24 MARCH - 10:30 AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY (WITH AGAPE MEAL)

28 MARCH – 6 PM

GOOD FRIDAY




29 MARCH – 10:30 AM

EASTER SUNDAY (AT REDEEMER)

31 MARCH – 10 AM (*NOTE EARLIER TIME)



MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 World Day of Prayer 2 pm at St. Michael's Catholic Church	2
3 3 rd Sunday of Lent Lighthouse Church 1 pm	4	5 Inshallah 5:30 pm	6 Participation House 9 am YAPCA 5:30 pm	7	8 Participation House 9 am	9
10 4 th Sunday of Lent Lighthouse Church 1 pm	11 Great Big Theatre Group 8 am Participation House 9 am Northern Hospitality 1 pm Council 7 pm	12 Great Big Theatre Group 8 am Participation House 9 am Inshallah 5:30 pm	13 Great Big Theatre Group 8 am	14 Great Big Theatre Group 8 am	15 Great Big Theatre Group 8 am	16 Men's Club Breakfast & Meeting 9 am 
17 5 th Sunday of Lent Luncheon 12 pm Lighthouse Church 1 pm	18	19 Inshallah 5:30 pm	20 YAPCA 5:30 pm	21 Participation House 9 am	22 Participation House 9 am	23 Participation House 9 am
24 Palm Sunday Lighthouse Church 1 pm	25 Participation House 9 am	26 Participation House 9 am Inshallah 5:30 pm	27 YAPCA 5:30 pm	28  Worship 6 pm	29  GOOD FRIDAY Worship 10:30 am <i>Office Closed</i>	30
31 Easter Worship at Redeemer – 10 am Lighthouse Church 1 pm	<p align="center">NOTE – WE WILL GATHER AT REDEEMER ON EASTER SUNDAY FOR WORSHIP AT <u>10 AM</u></p> <p align="center"><u>NO SERVICE AT TRINITY ON EASTER SUNDAY</u></p>					